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THE INKWELL



Week of September 15, 2011

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Campus Briefs

Common Read lecture explores ethics in medicine

The Common Read will host associate professor of rehabilitation medicine Bruce Greenfield of Emory University and the Emory Center for Ethics as he presents a medical ethics lecture in the Student Union's Ogeechee Theater Sept. 16 at noon.

The lecture will explore ethics in medicine, a topic heavily discussed within the Common Read book "The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks."

Armstrong hosts health care lecture

Armstrong's criminal justice department, with its social and political science departments will host the annual John Kearnes Constitution Day Lecture Sept. 19 in the Student Union's Ogeechee Theater at 1 p.m.

This year's lecturer, Armstrong professor of criminal justice Dennis Murphy, will present "The Health Care Reform Law: Will the Supreme Court be its 'Death Panel'?"

Punch and cake will be served at the reception.

The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call 912-344-3438.

Nursing students raffle iPad

The Armstrong nursing department students of the class of 2012 are holding an ongoing fundraiser to pay graduation fees for the program. The group is raffling an iPad. Tickets are \$5 for one and \$10 for three.

For more information, contact class president Jessica Langenfeld at 3jlangenfeld@comcast.net.

Check Inside



How we remember: 9/11 ten years later

"For the next 12 hours we stayed glued to the television set, horrified by this tragedy unfolding, wondering what would happen next."

"... my decision at that point was whether or not I was willing to go to war."

"A part of my childhood innocence was shattered that day."

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Turtles get second chance at Armstrong

Terrapin habitat to receive renovation



A month-old diamondback terrapin swims under a heat lamp in room 1303 of Science Hall on Sept. 1. This baby is only one of many turtles taken care of by Armstrong's TERPS program.

By Mike Choromanski
Layout.Inkwell@gmail.com

The university's student population may be higher than ever, but students aren't the only ones taking up residence at Armstrong. The Malaclemys terrapin, or diamondback terrapin, is also finding a home on campus thanks to the Terrapin Educational Research Program of Savannah, an Armstrong project started in 2004.

TERPS is a research project run with the help of students and professors dedicated to the protection, conservation and research of the diamondback terrapin. TERPS works year-round taking care of rescued terrapins on campus, researching ways to help them survive and releasing them back into the wild when the time is right.

The terrapins even have their very own outdoor habitat located next to the biology department's greenhouse.

TURTLES | PAGE 2

Tips for terrapin lovers

Those interested in helping wild turtles can remember three easy tips to ensure they help the turtle population survive.

1. Watch carefully for turtles trying to cross the road when driving. Terrapins often have to cross the road when looking for food or nesting grounds. Be especially careful when driving on the stretch of US 80 when headed to or from Tybee.
2. When conditions are safe, help a turtle cross the road by picking up the turtle and placing it on the side of the road that it was headed toward. If a turtle is placed on the side of the road that it came from, chances are it may just turn around and try to cross again.
3. Be sure to use a turtle excluder on your recreational or commercial crab traps. Turtles are often accidentally killed by people fishing for blue crabs.

Professor directs cross-state train study

Armstrong-based railway project excites students

By Daniel Willis

A new business venture, South by Southeast, attempts to answer the simple concern that if train travel is effective, Georgia should have more of it.

South by Southeast will study the possibility of a passenger rail service between Atlanta, Macon and Savannah. This new initiative is headed by project manager Katherine Hazard and Jack Simmons, associate professor of philosophy at Armstrong. According to the website, the self-stated purpose of this group is to help organize interested faculty, students and community members in advancing public transportation in Georgia. Georgia Public Service District 2 Commissioner Tim Echols supports the new organization.

The participants of this new initiative will conduct research and adopt projects to bring the plan to fruition.

"There are a lot of little details to be worked out," Simmons said. "Our goal is to solve all these little problems through faculty resources. University faculty and graduate students want to do research to have a positive impact on the community."

The first of these projects will study the existing train tracks and signaling systems to learn what needs to be upgraded. This project will estimate the costs of upgrades and study ways to fund repairs and ways that individual communities can help.

Many Armstrong students had a very positive outlook on the idea of city-to-city rail travel.

"I think having a train from Savannah to Atlanta, two major cities in Georgia, would not only be an environmental friend, but economically good for Georgia," said Erica Taylor, nursing major. "It would create jobs, and it would give Savannah and Atlanta more transportation options."

Freshman Sam Anderson felt that a new passenger train would be very helpful when he

needs to visit home.

"I'd definitely use it," Anderson said. "I have lots of friends in Atlanta, and my dad's up there. I hate taking the Greyhound, but I also don't have a car. Plus, I was a huge 'Thomas the Tank Engine' fan when I was a kid. Trains are cool."

Students seemed excited, not only because of what this would mean for them individually, but what a passenger railway system would mean for the country overall. "America is way behind the rest of the world when it comes to public transit, and we need to catch up," said student Megan Ganser. "Savannah and Atlanta are major cities that should have some connection as far as transportation. A train would be beneficial for students, business people, and help connect distant friends and family members."

Some students were very surprised that there was not already a passenger railway connecting Savannah and Atlanta.

"I assumed there already was a passenger train track between Savannah and Atlanta," said Emily Wilson, an early childhood education major.

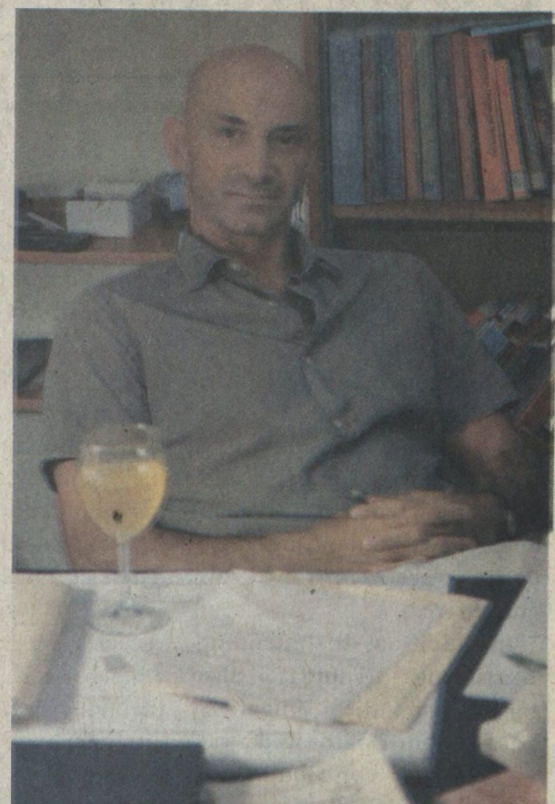


Photo by Vincent Haines

Philosophy professor Jack Simmons helps head the South by Southeast project. The project studies the possibility of train travel between Savannah and Atlanta.

Currently, there are nine proposed projects posted to the South by Southeast website. All proposed projects are posted at armstrong.edu/south_by_southeast.

Scholars and community groups are encouraged to adopt a project by contacting the project leaders at southbysoutheast.ga@gmail.com.

South by Southeast can also be found at facebook.com/pages/South-by-Southeast.

The project's staff encourage all community members to attend a meeting on the Armstrong campus during the first week of October, time and place to be announced.



Photo by Sarah Britton

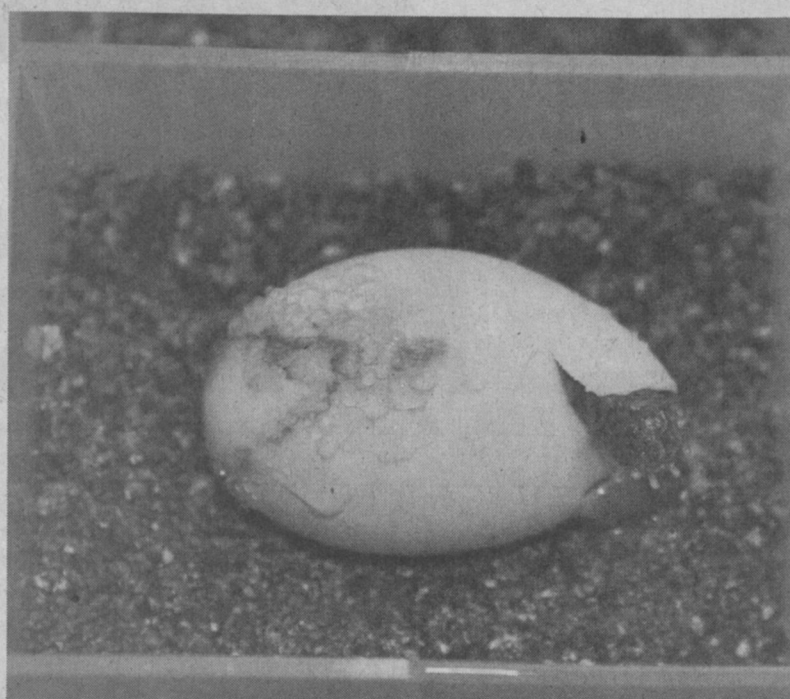


Photo by Dash Coleman

Left: Snappy, an adult female terrapin, basks in the sunshine on Sept. 7 in the terrapin pond located next to the greenhouse. Right: A male turtle hatches from its egg on Sept. 1 in room 1303 of Science Hall. He and his brothers' eggs were extracted from the body of their dying mother earlier in the summer.

TURTLES | FROM PAGE 1

Research

With the terrapin population declining in Georgia and abroad, experts like biology professor Kathryn Craven hope the research will help turtles in trouble. Craven said the main goal of the terrapin project is to raise public awareness and to learn the threats to the terrapin population.

"They're an animal in our own town that is in trouble," Craven said. "We believe the population to be much lower than it used to be."

Craven said that with the terrapin population in a state of flux, the ecosystems of Savannah's surrounding marshes are in a state of imbalance. The biggest staples of a diamondback terrapin's diet are periwinkle snails and fiddler crabs, which also live in the marshes. With less predation from the terrapins, the crabs and mollusks tend to overgraze, which can lead to marsh die-offs.

Craven said two of the most notable causes of terrapin death by humans are getting caught in crab traps and being run over by cars.

"The terrapins walk on the road because they're looking for nesting spots," Craven said.

Adult turtles aren't the only ones in danger, however. Baby terrapins are also in danger, and terrapin eggs have recently declined in fertility. Craven said two of the goals of her research are to assess threats to eggs on the beaches and to create a

portable chemical test to show egg viability. If researchers can tell if terrapin eggs are fertile and safe or not, they will know whether the key to helping the terrapin population lies with helping the adults, the eggs or both.

TERPS receives their eggs from dying mothers that cannot be saved. TERPS experiments with unviable eggs in an effort to understand exactly what the cause of the dead embryos is. Since Craven suspects part of the problem relates to bacteria, she is working closely with professor Jennifer Brofft-Bailey, who teaches several microbiology classes at Armstrong.

"We started working on the eggs in January 2011," Brofft-Bailey said. "For my applied microbiology lab, I had the students work in groups and examine failed eggs from Jekyll."

Brofft-Bailey said the egg research started as a chance for her students to apply their skills to a real-world problem but developed into a larger project focused on examining the bacteria discovered in unhatched eggs.

"We've looked at roughly 30 eggs from seven different nests from a single nesting season," she said.

There are several types of bacteria that could possibly affect the eggs, such as *Hahella*, a genus of bacteria known to cause red pigmentation and kill dinoflagellates, the cause of red tide. According to Brofft-Bailey, the presence of *Hahella*

would explain the red field found around the embryos of some unhatched eggs.

"We do often find bacteria in the failed eggs that are known pathogens in other organisms," she said.

Brofft-Bailey stresses she and her students still do not know for certain what is affecting the eggs. She also said that while it is possible that nearby development and land use could be exposing turtles to pathogens to which they wouldn't normally be exposed, whether humans are affecting the eggs cannot be confirmed or denied.

"They're an animal in our own town that is in trouble. We believe the population to be much lower than it used to be."

Armstrong terrapins

The terrapins that TERPS raises are either hatched on campus or rescued and donated to Armstrong by places such as the Tybee Island Marine Science Center and Jekyll Island's Georgia Sea Turtle Center.

Sometimes pregnant turtles that are mortally wounded by vehicles are able to have their eggs extracted as long as they are not crushed. These extracted eggs are donated to Armstrong and incubated

in Science Center until they hatch. Interestingly, in order to maintain a healthy gender ratio among the baby turtles, the eggs must be incubated at different temperatures to produce male and female offspring since terrapins do not have a chromosome to determine sex.

The terrapins are raised in the lab until they are a healthy age to be returned to the wild or integrated with the other adults in the habitat outside. Since terrapins grow more quickly in captivity, this can take place within a year's time, even though terrapins can live for decades.

The adult terrapins are located outside the biology greenhouse in their own pond that was made by members of TERPS. The pond currently is home to seven turtles — three male and four female.

The terrapin habitat will soon see renovation, however, as the biology department has been collaborating with Plant Operations in an effort to dig a new space for a larger, more advanced habitat.

"It looks like we will be giving them a hand," said Grounds Superintendent Philip Schretter. "They have a plastic tub that will go into the existing hole. We'll get the tub set into place and leveled and the biology department will handle the rest. I imagine we will probably get to it in the next couple of weeks."

The new habitat will be able to provide the turtles with a

lot more comfort, and enable them to be outside year-round. According to Craven, the new habitat will be heated and able to have a healthier amount of salinity. Ground Operations won't be doing all the work, however. Once the hole is dug, the members of TERPS will be doing the rest of the landscaping.

"There's no way I could do this all by myself," Craven said. "It's all driven by the students."

The project was started back in 2004 by biology instructor Jordan Grey, who trained other students to keep the project going. In addition to forming TERPS, Grey designed the plan for the new terrapin habitat and also was responsible for helping to open the state's eyes to the danger that the terrapins were in by doing things like documenting road mortality. Thanks to efforts like Grey's, terrapins are now protected in Georgia, and it is illegal to fish for, kill or eat them.

Another member of TERPS, senior biology major Teffany Reaves, described her feelings about the program via email.

"The TERPS is very student involved; we have great teamwork and participation from all the students involved. Everyone has a good attitude and willingness to take care of these animals," Teffany said. "As far as my feelings about the project, I love it. I enjoy the people; I have made many close friends by being involved in the project."

Campus Voices

Reported by Brittany Cook

"After 10 years of armed conflict, do you think an American presence is required in the Middle East and Afghanistan?"



"No. I just think that people want their families back."

Jamie Rowell,
mathematics,
junior



"I think America should stay to themselves really, but sometimes it's OK."

Nader Amer,
visual arts,
sophomore



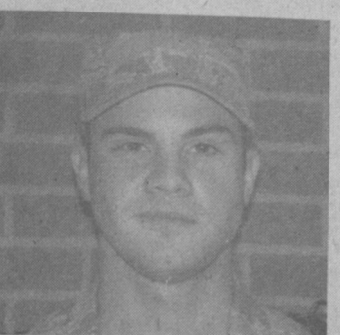
"I mean Osama's dead. What's the point?"

Rebecca Foley,
undeclared,
junior



"No. Well, I don't believe in globalization. I believe in isolationism."

Matt Womack,
biology,
freshman



"Anywhere there's conflict, American presence is usually needed, not for combat means but to help that nation."

Jose Ferrer,
political science,
freshman



"No. I didn't think we should have been there in the first place."

Tony Lucento,
computer science,
senior

Southside Alderman enjoys close ties to Armstrong

By Nancy Rentz

Campaign re-election signs for Alderman Tony Thomas, who represents the Savannah's 6th District, include the pledge "A Voice for ALL People." Armstrong is in Thomas' district, and as a current councilman and former student, he has a desire to see Armstrong grow and thrive.

In addition to attending Armstrong, Thomas also served on the University Foundation Board and was a financial contributor to the school. He also had the unique experience of being part of the council that named Roger Warlick Drive after the former chairman of the Department of History.

"Armstrong needs to be more connected with the city, and the city needs to become as engaged with Armstrong as they are with Savannah State University," Thomas said.

He said there is definite favoritism given to Savannah State by the city as evidenced by the number of Savannah State interns that are engaged with the city in comparison to Armstrong, as well as

the number of events the city actively joins Savannah State in yearly compared to Armstrong and the Savannah College of Art and Design.

"We must make a better effort at supporting all of our major local colleges and universities rather than have the appearance of favoring just one," Thomas said.

Thomas said he tries to listen as much as he speaks. During a typical week he receives an average of 200 emails and phone calls involving issues affecting the city and his district. He even occasionally receives calls from constituents from other districts and when possible uses his resources to help for them.

He shared that traditional college-age constituents have expressed their disappointment in attending Armstrong and not receiving the college atmosphere they expected. He would like to see Armstrong have the same presence in the surrounding community that SCAD has in the downtown area — one where businesses will be student friendly, and students will be actively involved in the community.

Thomas has other suggestions he considers to be crucial in growing Armstrong into a university that more private donors will want to support.

"If I had my way, Armstrong would have a football team and a business school," he said.

There are several projects Thomas wants to see completed before he considers leaving the office of alderman. He has been very supportive of efforts to improve the Coffee Bluff Marina, a public dock on the Southside that is also used by the Marine Rescue Squadron. The proposed upgrades for Coffee Bluff Marina include a new floating dock, a fishing pier and an observation deck.

"The marina will be one of the crown jewels in the parks network for the city," Thomas said. "Being the only city marina, it will offer every citizen of our community access to the water that has dwindled so much over the years. I believe it is one of the signature achievements of the city in recent years and look forward to its completion in 2012."

Another project Thomas

wants to see through includes enhancements to Tribble Park, a park located in the Windsor Forest area that includes a 55-acre lake and walking trails.

"Tribble Park was a fantastic addition, utilizing existing land within the Windsor Forest community," he said. "Working with the neighborhood association, I believe the city accomplished a little piece of heaven right in the middle of a neighborhood. For the future, I see a phase two project to enhance parking, safety and other issues, but Tribble Park is one of the unique spots for Savannah recreation that really sets the standard."

Also on the horizon for the 6th District is another fire station and more sidewalks. Thomas expressed great concern at the number of children and mothers pushing baby strollers that are forced to walk in the street because there are no sidewalks.

"I don't do anything different in the fourth year than I do in the first and second year," Thomas said of his modus operandi. "I operate every year like it's an election."

Crime Blotter

Repeat campus trespasser arrested

By Brittany Cook

On Sept. 9, Officer Richard Mitts was on patrol when he was approached by a student who reported that his decal was stolen from his motorcycle. The student left from classes around 8:55 a.m., leaving his black and orange Suzuki GSXR parked in the Sports Center parking lot.

After classes, he returned around 1:08 p.m. and noticed the theft. The decal was placed on the front forks of the bike on top of his previous decal. Clear plastic tape was on top of the decals. The student went to the police station to be issued another decal.

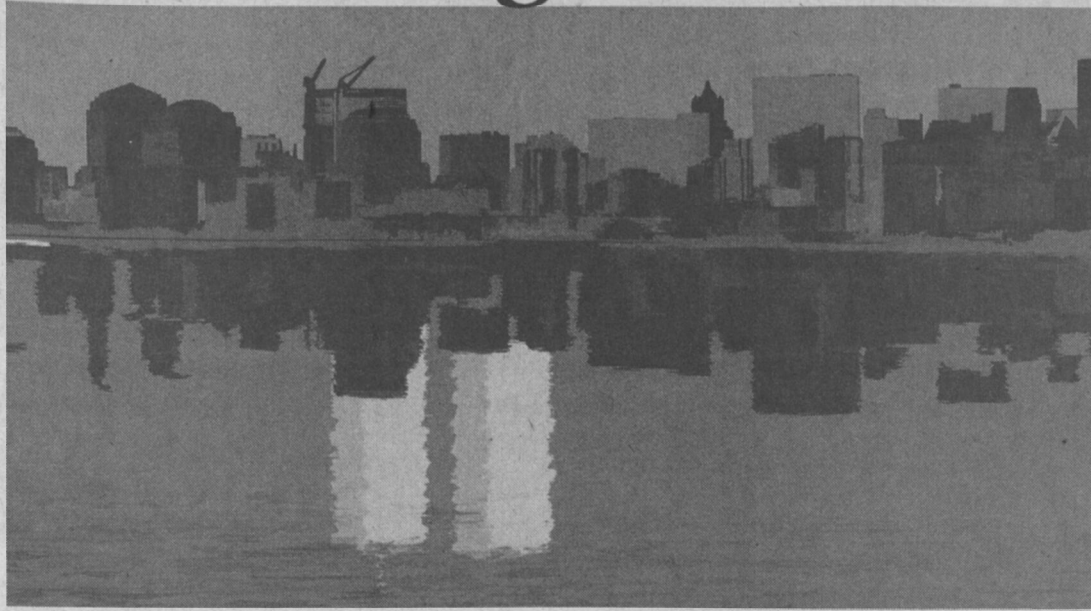
"If we find somebody that's using a stolen decal, that's a big deal," said University Police Chief Wayne Willcox. "We'll boot their car, and we make them come in and talk to us. And there's always a great story behind it."

On Sept. 10 at 3:51 a.m., Lt. Isaac Strickland and Officer Kelley Wood received information that, despite housing rules, a 20-year-old male who is not a student may have slept in his girlfriend's dorm in the 6,000 building of Compass Point.

"There's a rule against it, but that's a university rule," Willcox

The Inkwell

Reflecting on 9/11



The terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001 changed the course of history. The world watched as thousands of lives were lost. The attacks had a lasting effect on the American psyche and acted as catalysts for changes in government and the media landscape, and two ongoing wars in which thousands more lives – military and civilian alike – have been lost. It was a day that everyone able remembers, but it was an event that meant different things for different people. Below three Armstrong students of different ages recount what 9/11 meant to them.

Mike Choromanski
10 years old on 9/11

I was 10 years on 9/11. I was old enough to be consciously aware but too young to understand the world's complexities. Like most kids my age, I was in school when the attacks happened. Also like most kids my age, I was concerned with more trivial things, like the fact that it was a Tuesday and I had to chorus class later.

It started off like every other school morning. Shortly after I recited the Pledge of Allegiance, however, my grandparents came to pick me up. I had no idea why I was being dismissed early – I was just ecstatic I was going to miss chorus.

That changed on the ride home. My grandmother struggled to describe the gravity of the situation to me, and my grandfather was just silent. When we got home, I saw my mom was home early from work. She was ironing clothes and had every TV in the house tuned to the news. I couldn't believe what I saw

on TV. What horrified me the most was footage of people leaping to their deaths to escape the flames.

A part of my childhood innocence was shattered that day. Until 9/11, I never knew how violent human beings could be to one another. The only way I could see Osama bin Laden was as a monster or a super-villain, like a bad guy in a TV show or a video game, because the only deduction I could arrive at in my mind was that no human could be a bringer of such evil and death.

I remember going to bed that night more terrified than I had ever been in my life. I prayed for God to ease the passing of the souls of those who died, and to protect my family from terrible men like those who coordinated the attacks. I prayed that the world could be purged of its violence and for God to forgive mankind for the horrible things that they were capable of.

Every night from that day onward I was haunted. Not by a ghosts or memories, but by Bin Laden. It was like a demon I could not see, hear or touch, but could sense hovering over

me every minute of every day. The world I knew was forever changed from a happy place filled with wonders for me to explore into a dark and unforgiving void of despair and evil.

I don't care what anyone says – the day Bin Laden was killed was one of the happiest in my life. The monster that haunted my nightmares since I was a child was now dead. It was as if a child heard someone had shot the boogeyman. Nothing makes me happier on this 10th anniversary of 9/11 than for justice to have come to the man who haunted both America and my childhood.

Jeremiah Johnson
21 years old on 9/11

I was 21 years old that tragic day that changed our way of life forever. I hadn't made much of my life up to that point. Alcohol and drugs had taken a real toll in my life and I spent most days a miserable wreck. I had decided a few

months prior to Sept. 11 that my life was going nowhere and needed a drastic change in direction. I spent the next few weeks speaking with a U.S. Army recruiter and filed the necessary paperwork to enlist. The morning that the towers were turned to rubble I was preparing to catch a bus to Oklahoma City, where I would take my oath of enlistment and ship off to Fort Knox, Ky., for basic training.

My decision to join the Army was not one of duty, patriotism or honor. I simply was exhausted from trying to survive life from one party to the next. I woke up that morning, hung over from tying off one last party from the night before, and phoned my father to drive me to the bus station. He told me to turn on the TV. I spent the next 30 minutes or so in shock.

My recruiter informed me, in light of the terrorist attacks, that my trip was cancelled and that he would contact me the following week to reschedule my enlistment date. I quickly realized enlisting in the Army was going to be more than just a way for me to instill some much needed discipline in my life – my decision at that point was whether or not I was willing to go to war.

Many of my friends called me that day to convey their concerns about my enlistment. Most of them tried to talk me out of it. I must admit that the idea of going to war frightened me and I greatly considered backing out of my decision. The next few days it was impossible to escape the coverage that day's events. It seemed that even channels like Comedy Central were dedicating their airwaves to 24-hour news coverage of the event.

As I continued to watch the news my emotions slowly turned from fear to anger. That anger I felt toward the perpetrators of 9/11 consumed me and ultimately

made my decision to honor my enlistment. A month later I raised my right hand swore to protect and defend my country.

After joining the Army, I felt for the first time in life a sense of purpose and direction. I learned the principle of selfless service. From that point on my life was not about me. It was about the guy to the left and the right of me. Ten years later I still try to carry that principle with me as I work toward my bachelor's degree in economics. Regardless of my feelings on the war on terror, which we are still engaged in today, I will forever honor the men I served with – some of whom made the ultimate sacrifice.

Joe Morgan
70 years old on 9/11

My wife is a native New Yorker, born in Brooklyn and lived on Long Island for many years. Several months before 9/11, we visited New York and went to Battery Park and Ellis Island. The view of the twin towers from the tour boat was magnificent.

On the morning of Sept. 11, 2001, I was watching CNBC. Mark Haines was commenting on the preopening of the New York Stock Exchange, what had happened in other world markets during the night and its effect on the NYSE at the opening bell. He interrupted his remarks with a news flash that a small plane had crashed into one of the twin towers.

He was not too alarmed; neither was I. In the early 1960s, a large military aircraft had collided with a tall skyscraper with minimal damage and loss of lives. However, it was soon revealed that it was a large passenger plane, immediately followed by a second crash into the other tower. It was now obvious that these were terrorist attacks, well beyond

the stage of an accident.

For the next 12 hours we stayed glued to the television set, horrified by this tragedy unfolding, wondering what would happen next. The crash of another plane into the Pentagon and the subsequent takeover by passengers and crew from terrorists on yet another plane resulted in a fourth aircraft crash in Pennsylvania. The mission of this group was to destroy the Capitol in Washington. It bothered Theresa even more, as she was familiar with both the twin towers and the Capitol.

The summer after 9/11, we returned to the area now known as ground zero. As we emerged from the subway station, we encountered a putrid smell, a blend of many odors too difficult to describe. We walked in streets with above-ground utilities, makeshift water and utility lines and boarded-up storefronts that once housed thriving businesses and restaurants.

However, nothing could prepare us for the gigantic hole in the ground. It was like a scene from a sci-fi movie where two robotic arms had twisted and turned numerous blocks of buildings and streets into nothing – absolutely nothing but a huge crater.

We walked slowly back to the subway in silence, passing by a small church with minimal damage and the statue of the Wall Street bull, who remained aggressive and defiant in his stance.

Ten years later, billions of dollars have been spent on homeland security and two wars, thousands of military and civilian lives have been lost, and individual freedoms have been curtailed in the interest of national security.

Our lives will never be the same again.

Student follows veteran father through Vietnam

By Michael Barrett

Growing up the son of a Marine, without any military experience of my own, there was always a bit of disconnect between my father and me. My father served in Vietnam in 1972, six years before I was born. He served for two years and that was all I knew. Those who know people who served in war they know it is something not spoken of lightly, if at all.

For perhaps 10 years my father and I always tossed around the idea about going to Vietnam together one day and revisiting some of the places that he saw. I have traveled extensively through Asia but always kept the pact that I would not go to Vietnam without him. I fully recognized the possibility that the trip might be an emotional roller coaster or, like any father-and-son trip, somebody might push the other from a moving train.

However, I knew I would have an experience in Vietnam that I never had or will ever have again – witnessing my father, a veteran, return.

I knew it would only become more difficult to make the trip in

the years to come – partly because of our schedules and because it's Vietnam. It's hot, the trip takes 21 hours of flights, there are drastic dietary differences and it's still a bit tricky to get around. So, in May I pitched him the itinerary I had planned out three years ago.

We had to move somewhat quickly, and after getting our visas we left in June. I'll always remember my dad laughing when we got our visas in the mail because I said, "You realize we just made a \$140 donation to the Vietnamese Communist Party."

We started in the old capital of South Vietnam, Saigon, which is now called Ho Chi Minh City after the leader of the North Vietnamese revolution. The first day we went straight to the old South Vietnamese presidential palace and toured the building that is now a monument to the victory by the North Vietnamese on April 30, 1975. On that day tanks came crashing through the gates sealing the war's fate.

There is a museum inside that portrays the American War – as it is called in Vietnam – from the victor's perspective. Photos portray American involvement in a negative light, and in one part of the English video for tourists

American troops are referred to as South Vietnam's "lackeys." Watching this video with my dad made me squirm, and I was not surprised when he calmly said he had seen enough. It is not that he was offended,

but I could only see it as the pouring of salt in a very old and open wound. This lackey, after all, had watched friends die.

We then took

a sleeper train from Saigon to Da Nang. This was where my father had spent the bulk of his tour in '72. It was an important base for operations near the Demilitarized Zone located almost in the middle of the country. Thousands of U.S. troops were at some time either stationed in or passed through Da Nang.

The train car was a three-bunk by three-bunk room where we would stay with other Vietnamese travelers for the 14-hour journey north along the coast. Everyone we met was as

friendly as they could be.

We hired a local DMZ guide in Dong Hoi for a private tour. Dad had a few locations he wanted to go but unfortunately, the exact locations weren't exactly on any

kind of tourist trail and some of the old names of the places had changed. One of the stops was an old citadel in the small village of Quang Tri. It had been leveled

during the war and there were plenty of images in the museum on site. Judging from the images, I too would have tried to shut it out of my memory.

Dad had been involved in the last amphibious assault in Vietnam and knew to go due east to the nearest beach, which during his time had no name. Along the way, like someone waking up from amnesia, all the memories came flooding back and he narrated where he had pushed ashore 40 years ago. Stopping for directions we saw a public safety sign describing

"To stand there with my dad, a man whose service was always shrouded in silence, was an experience like none other I have ever had traveling anywhere in this world."

in pictures that if you see an unexploded ordinance to call the authorities. It's still a major problem and a major reminder of the American War.

The beach was the culmination of the entire trip. We had reached the point that represented the entire war to him – he might even add it represented his youth. There is still a letter in our family sent to my mom before he landed. It makes clear that he didn't know if he would make it home alive.

This beach, 40 years later, scattered with a handful of fishing boats and even fewer people, put to rest an experience that turns boys to men in a matter of seconds. To stand there with my dad, a man whose service was always shrouded in silence, was an experience like none other I have ever had traveling anywhere in this world. It was a heavy, emotional day but by the end of it, and with the aid of a few beers, it was easy to see that something was being digested by my father and a large cloud was lifting. It was everything I had ever hoped for.

What I think was the most powerful to watch was a man who referred to eating French

fries without ketchup as "communist" return to a country where he saw their societal structure of communism and the evils depicted by his generation gone. It simply did not fit the Stalinist, anti-religion, anti-capitalist mold preached to them for 40 years.

Instead he was able to witness a country that welcomed us with open arms and allowed him to do a bit of healing, a bit of soul searching and find a little bit more of his youth. Vietnam has gotten over the events of the late 20th century. The Vietnamese are a people that have moved on and are looking forward to the future. Thankfully, they were able to allow my dad the space to do the same. It is definitely not your father's communism.

Michael Barrett is a graduate student at Armstrong. He is working toward his master's degree in middle grades education for science and social science.

Check out theinkwellonline.com for pictures of Barrett's trip to Vietnam with his father.

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Lady Pirates win in double overtime

By Charlette Hall

The Lady Pirates' Sept. 10 match against Lander University was one that was filled with intensity and drama. The Bearcats had momentum at the start of the match and took an early one-goal lead thanks to a cross from Christina Barbour to Kendall Couch in the 15th minute.

In the 21st minute, the Lady Pirates struck back. Anyde Dawson's kick from outside the box hit a Lander defender and was kicked by Morgan Mitchell for the Lady Pirates' first goal of the match and Mitchell's first goal of the season. Before the first half ended, the Lady Pirates added another goal to their score when Jordan Otto's kick from the right side beat the Lander goalkeeper which put the Lady Pirates up 2-1 going into halftime.

During the second half, the Bearcats scored first after a free kick from Sam Vickers found a wide open Barbour who one-touched it past Meghan Mayville. The match was tied 2-all.

The Lady Pirates had three corner kicks in the last minute of regulation but the Lander goalkeeper made the save necessary to send the match into overtime. The Lady Pirates had been in the same situation before against Lander last season.

In overtime, neither team scored a goal. The Lady Pirates were playing more aggressively and got three shots compared to Lander's one. The match went to double overtime. The match came down to the final three minutes. The Lady Pirates' Ashanae Monroe found Casey Dixon in the right corner on a throw in.

Dixon crossed the ball along

the endline to find a wide open Mitchell who headed the ball into the ground. The ball bounced past Chelsea Beetch, the Lander goalkeeper, to give the Lady Pirates the 3-2 victory.

"We were confident in the overtime because we have been in the same situation before with Lander and have always pulled it out," said Head Coach Eric Faulconer. "Overtimes are never pretty and it really just comes down to heart and desire."

This was the team's second win of the season and their first conference win.

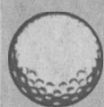
"It is good to get the first conference win of the season under our belt," Faulconer said. "We have two very difficult region games before we are back in our conference schedule, and we are just going to take it one game at a time and hopefully continue to improve."

Sports recap



Women's Soccer:

Sep. 2	vs. Lynn @ Lakeland, Fla.	L, 2-0	Final
Sep. 4	at Fla. Southern	W, 2-1	Final
Sep. 10	Lander *	W, 3-2	Final - 2OT



Men's Golf:

Sep. 6	vs. USC Aiken Kiawah Island Intercollegiate @ Kiawah Island, S.C.		
	third of 17 Teams		Cougar Point Golf Club



Volleyball:

Sep. 2	Lincoln Memorial	W, 3-0	Final
	2011 Armstrong Volleyball Classic		
	Lenoir-Rhyne	W, 3-2	Final
	2011 Armstrong Volleyball Classic		
Sep. 3	Limestone	W, 3-0	Final
	2011 Armstrong Volleyball Classic		
	Catawba	W, 3-1	Final
	2011 Armstrong Volleyball Classic		
Sep. 9	vs. Newberry at Aiken, S.C.	W, 3-2	Final
	2011 USC Aiken Pacer Invitational		
	vs. Florida Tech at Aiken, S.C.	W, 3-0	Final
	2011 USC Aiken Pacer Invitational		
Sep. 10	vs. Anderson (S.C.) at Aiken, S.C.	W, 3-0	Final
	2011 USC Aiken Pacer Invitational		
	vs. Lynn at Aiken, S.C.	W, 3-1	Final
	2011 USC Aiken Pacer Invitational		
Sep. 13	at Queens (N.C.)	W, 3-0	Final

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Inkwell Calendar

Keep up with campus life

Sept. 15

Internationally known Houston comedian Mohammed "Mo" Amer performs free of charge at 8 p.m. in the Savannah Ballroom in the Student Union.

Sept. 16

A reception for the 2011 Faculty Art Exhibition will be held in the Fine Arts Gallery at 5:30 p.m. The event is free and no tickets are required.

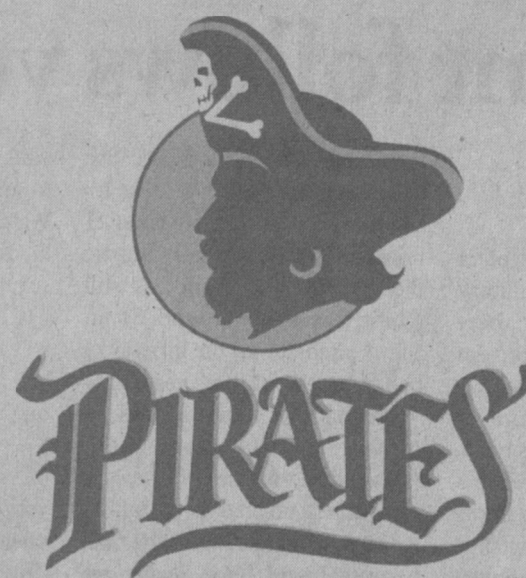
Sept. 17

The Student Recreation Center hosts a cornhole tournament at 7 p.m. Sign up ahead of time at IMLeagues.com/Armstrong.

Sept. 19

Campus Union Board hosts an open mic night at 8 p.m. in the Savannah Ballroom. Students, staff or faculty who want to perform can sign up outside the ballroom at 6:30 p.m. Refreshments will be provided during the event.

Armstrong



Follow the Pirates

Men's cross-country:

Sept. 17 Mercer RunFit Sports Invitational at Macon, Ga.

Women's volleyball:

Sept. 17 vs. Valdosta St. and Rollins at the 2011 Pirate South/Southeast Challenge

Women's soccer:

Sept. 18 vs. Tusculum

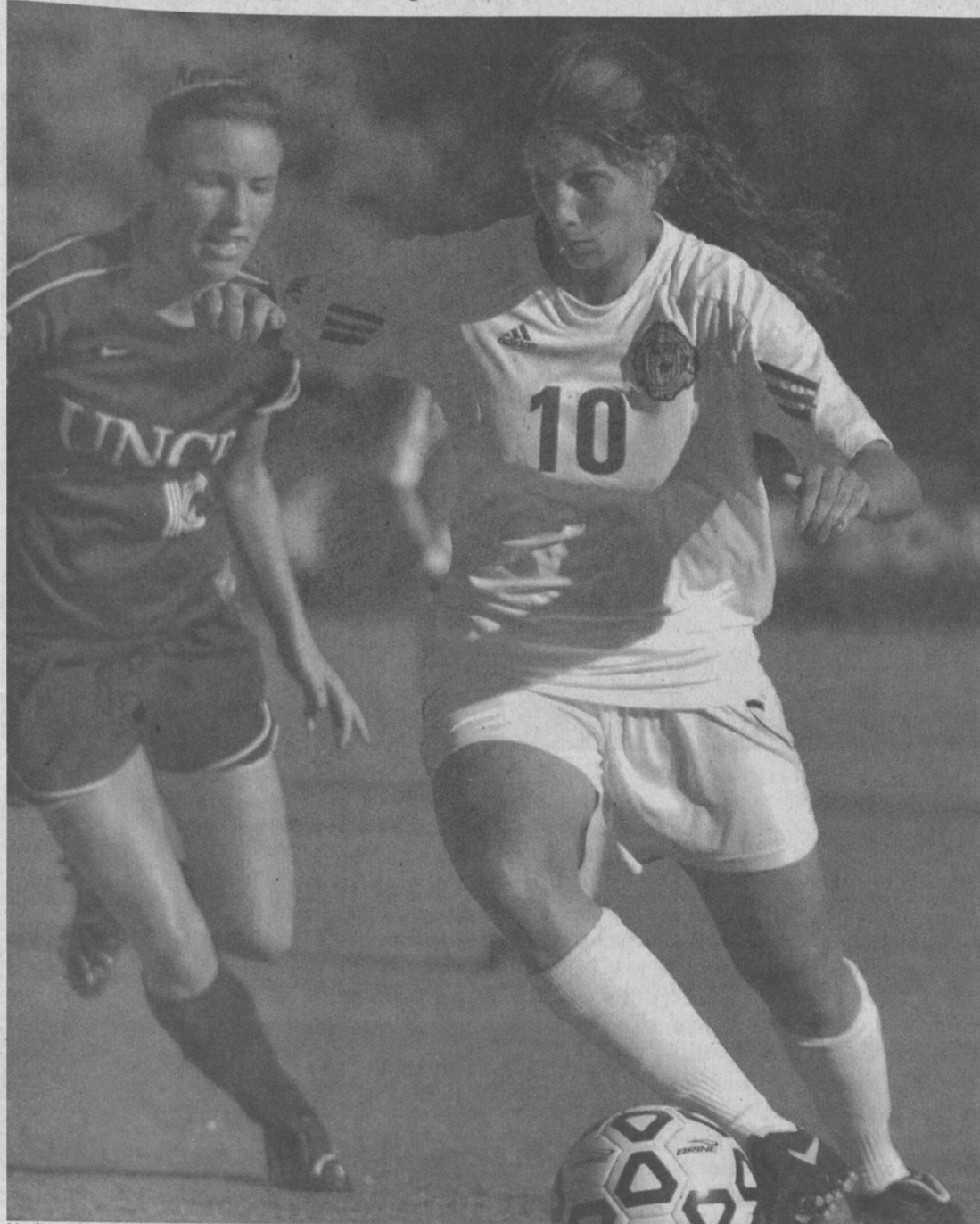
Men's golf:

Sept. 6 USC Aiken Kiawah Island Intercollegiate at Kiawah Island, S.C.

Women's golf:

Sept. 18 4th Annual Eat A Peach Collegiate at Macon, Ga.

Star players lead 2011 soccer season



Nadima Skeff dribbles down field during the Pirates' Oct. 23 game against UNC Pembroke.

File Photo

Nadima Skeff

Hometown: Rio de Janeiro

Birthdate: April 7, 1990

Position: Mid-fielder

Year: Junior

Jersey Number: 10

Major: Health science

Hobbies outside of soccer: none

Favorite TV show: "House"

Favorite movie: "The Dark Knight"

Favorite food: Stroganoff

Favorite band: Brazilian bands

Favorite athlete: Ronaldo de Assis Moreira

By Charlette Hall

Skeff was born in Brasilia, Brazil. Her hometown is Rio de Janeiro. She started playing soccer when she was 6 years old. She attended high school at Universidade Presbiteriana Mackenzie in Brazil. She moved to the United States in 2010, her first year playing for the Lady Pirates soccer team. As a sophomore she played in all 20 games, 14 of which were starts. She scored a team high of 18 points last season,

having scored seven goals with four assists.

Skeff was ranked 10th in the PBC for points, ninth in goals and 10th in shots. Her stats earned her second team All-PBC honors. She has scored against major opponents like Rollins, Queens (NC), Clayton State, USC Aiken, Montevallo and Georgia College as a sophomore. Against Flagler, she scored the game-winning goal in the 80th minute to lift the Lady Pirates to a 2-1 victory. Skeff is also a member of the Brazil U20 national team. The team

won the South American Cup championship in March 2011. Prior to attending Armstrong, Skeff attended the Catholic University of Brasilia.

"Nadima is probably our best technical player," said Head Coach Eric Faulconer. "She is very strong with the ball at her feet and she can do some amazing things on the ball. She can play as a forward or as a mid-fielder in our system of play and has the ability to change a game with her skill level at any time."

Emily Jordan Otto

Hometown: Savannah, Ga

Birthdate: Jan. 19, 1992

Position: Forward

Year: Sophomore

Jersey number: 26

Major: Physical therapy

Hobbies outside of soccer: Photography, drawing, listening to music

Favorite TV show: "Storage Wars"

Favorite band(s): Yellowcard and The Maine

Favorite athlete(s): Abby Wambach, Lance Armstrong and Kristine Lilly

By Charlette Hall

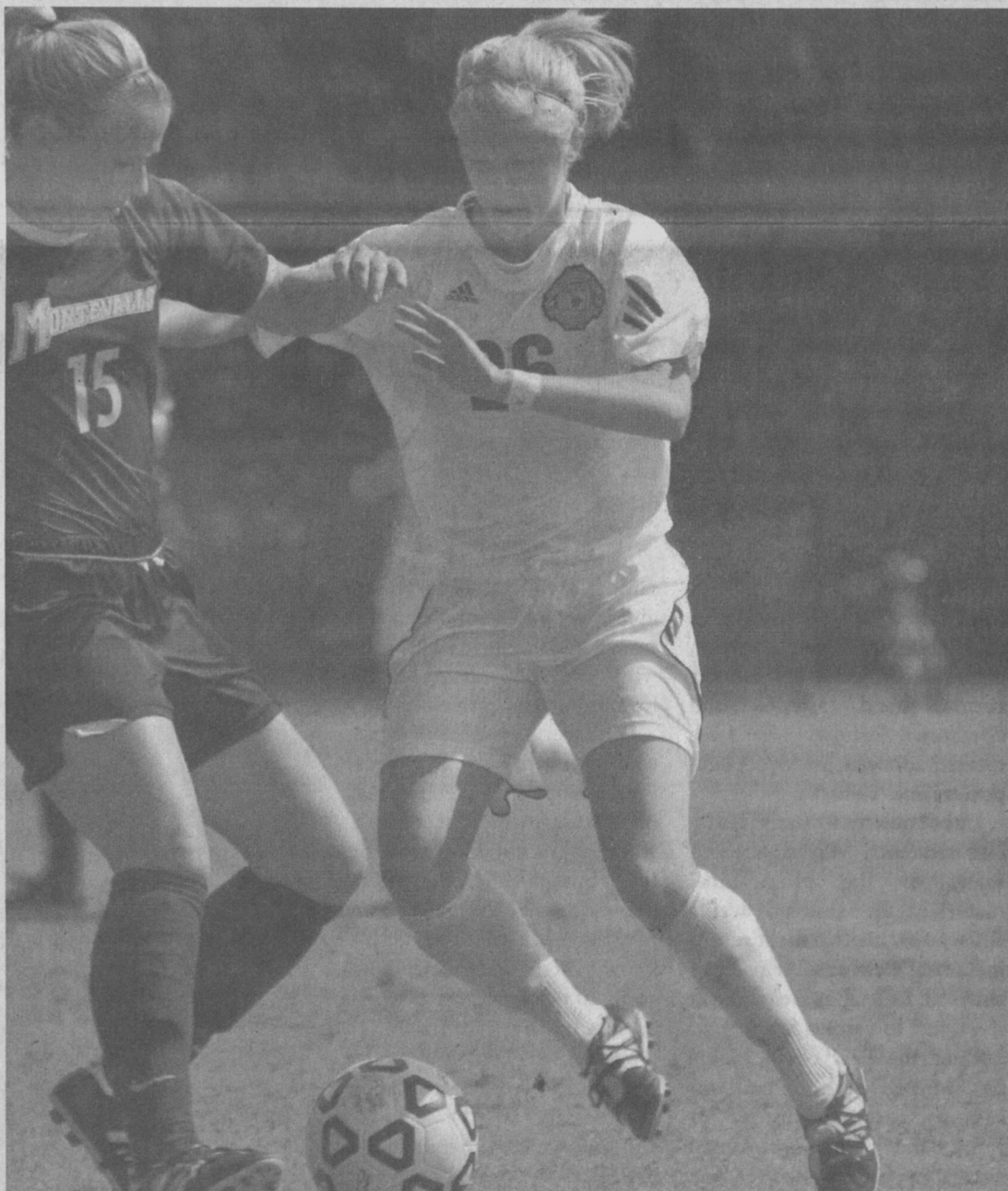
Emily was born in Savannah. She attended high school at St. Vincent's Academy where she played soccer for all four years. She was recognized as the 2010 Savannah Morning News All-Coastal Empire Soccer First Team honoree. At the Prep Soccer All-Star Weekend in 2010, she earned the MVP title. Emily was also a member of the Concorde Fire South Elite 1992 team, a club team that made it to the

Georgia State Cup semifinals in 2009. In 2007, she was selected as the Coastal Georgia Soccer Association Select Player of the Year. Otto was also a member of the Georgia State Olympic Development Program Team that year.

During her freshman year at Armstrong, she participated in 19 matches. She scored five goals with five assists that gave her 15 points. She scored two goals in the 12-0 victory over Brewton-Parker and the 6-0 win over USC Aiken. Against No. 3 Columbus State,

she assisted the game-winning goal giving the Lady Pirates the 2-0 victory. Emily was also a member of the Peach Belt Conference Presidential Honor Roll.

"Jordan is one of our team's hardest workers," said Head Coach Eric Faulconer. "You can always count on her to give her best effort, no matter the situation. She plays as a wide attacking player for us and creates a lot of scoring chances for our team."



Armstrong forward Jordan Otto battles Montevallo's Alex Terhar for control during a game in Oct. last year.

File Photo

Students sweat, shimmy at Armstrong Zumba classes

By Sarah Wagner

Zumba is not another magic powder sprinkled over your cupcakes, or a pill that probably hasn't been tested by the FDA.

Zumba is a rigorous dance workout. Not limited to one type of music or style of dance, Zumba is a collection of genres from hip-hop to samba. It is about general movement instead of technical dance moves. There are no 90-day commitments, as Zumba is simply a series of fluid, mutable dance moves combined with workouts like kickboxing or yoga.

Instructor and Armstrong

sophomore Chelsea Pyrch has been a certified Zumba instructor since June 2008. Although this is her first semester teaching Zumba at Armstrong, she also teaches classes at SCAD and the YMCA.

"I have to turn people away, we have such a huge turnout," Pyrch said. "We have a waiting list at the Savannah College of Arts and Design."

Before Armstrong, Pyrch was a professional ballet dancer in Ohio. She uses Zumba to stay in shape and stay true to her dancing roots.

"It's more fun than running," Pyrch said. "It tones, burns calories, and it's fun."

Zumba classes are one hour long, and the class welcomes all types of people from various fitness backgrounds.

Military veteran and Armstrong sophomore Gloria Scott comes to class twice a week.

"The Tuesday noon class is my favorite," Scott said. "It's constant sweating for an hour. You don't focus on one part of the body. You're moving the whole thing."

The general rule of Zumba is to keep moving regardless of ability or lack of rhythm. Bounce, wiggle and shimmy — just don't stop.



Shabazz Brum and Allalesha Ellis, freshmen at Armstrong, participated in the dance fitness program at a Zumba class in the Student Recreation Center.

Photo by Nicholas Isola

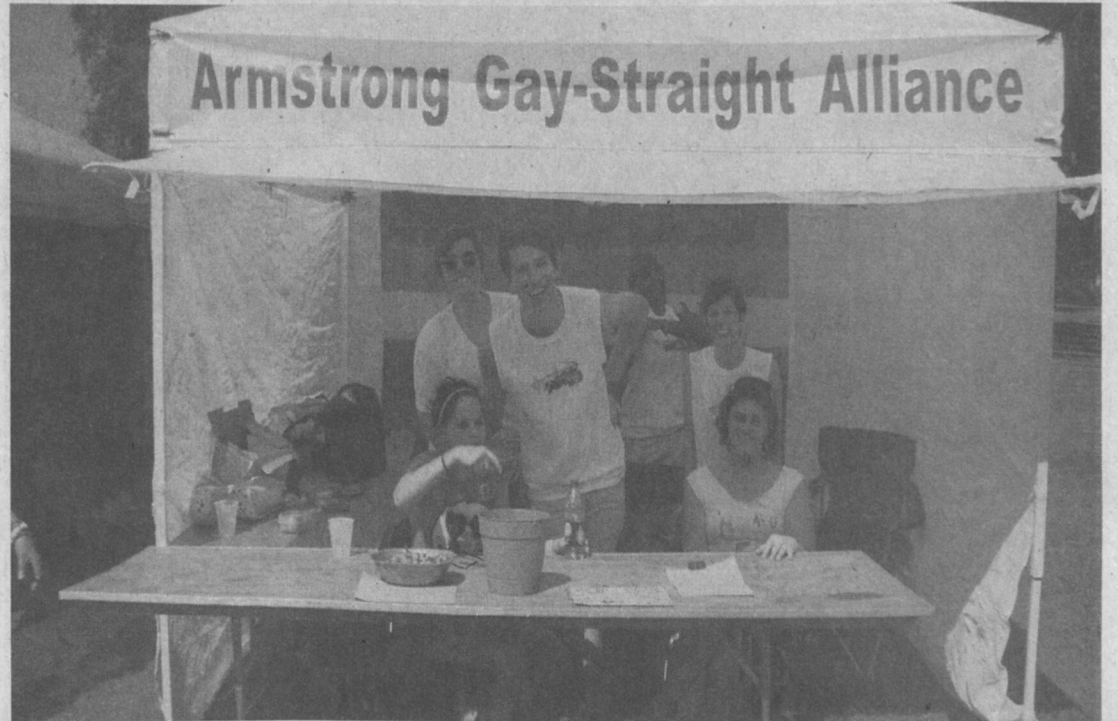
Zumba

Zumba is offered at Armstrong five times a week by three different instructors. These classes are included in the athletic fees portion the student fees paid every semester.

Classes are offered at the Student Recreational Center on campus, next to Art Annex II and behind the Lane Library on Mondays from 6:40 p.m. to 7:40 p.m. with Christina and 9:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. with Joan, Tuesdays with Chelsea from noon to 1 p.m., and Wednesdays from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. and 6:40 p.m. to 7:40 p.m.

Pride holds daylong celebration at Forsyth

Savannah LGBT community celebrates in style



Savannah's 12th annual Gay Pride festival was held on Sept. 10 in Forsyth Park, and was hosted by the Savannah Pride Organization.

Photos courtesy of Ryan Groom

By Richelle Laughinghouse

The Savannah Pride Organization, a local nonprofit group, hosted the 12th annual Gay Pride festival on Sept. 10 in Forsyth Park. The Savannah Pride festival's mission was simple — to celebrate, support and bring awareness to the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender community.

In hopes of contributing to a cause, locals and visitors came out in droves to dance, watch performances, play games and make crafts.

The festival had a \$5 entrance fee and lasted from 11:30 a.m. to roughly 10:00 p.m.

"Savannah Pride gives LGBT folks an opportunity to be in the community that they live and work in," said Pam Miller, a city council

candidate, member of the LGBT community and an annual attendee of the festival. "They are able to go out and enjoy their city and friends, and live how they would love to live, everyday, in every way."

Miller said the festival was not only a great day for the LGBT community, it was also a financial success.

"Pride brought a lot of money in for Savannah. I had friends who came in from as far as London," Miller said.

Many businesses, politicians and churches set up their flier and merchandise filled tents along the perimeter of the festival.

Kenneth Pinion, vice president of the Armstrong Gay Straight Alliance, was optimistic about the vibe the festival carried.

"We have been supporting

safe sex and HIV awareness," Pinion said.

Pinion stressed the relevance of Armstrong in the LGBT community and the support needed from students to attend festivals like Pride.

"Our objective is to create an alliance between every sexual orientation and gender," Pinion said. "It is important for Armstrong students to realize that there are not only straight students at the school. There are gay, bisexual, lesbian, transsexual and transgender, so being a part of this festival creates awareness for that."

Pinion said GSA will definitely be back next year as well.

"We will absolutely participate again," Pinion said. "There is a certain positive feeling one gets from helping and supporting such a great

community."

Pastor Candace Hardnett, founder of Agape Empowerment Ministries, had a tent at the festival representing the church's support for the LGBT community. The church is a Christian organization that provides a nonjudgmental place of worship.

"We not only accept any and everybody, but we actually involve them," Hardnett said. "A lot of churches claim to accept anyone, but they cast them to the back. We do not."

As the evening continued, the music and performances got rowdier and more exciting, transitioning from bands like Liquid Ginger to Vida DeVoids Burlesque Show and Club One performer Blair Williams who danced to Lady Gaga's "Born This Way."

People from all different genders, ethnicities, religions and backgrounds came together in this daylong festival to raise awareness.

With the impressive turn out this year, expectations are high

for the future.

"Every year leaves opportunity for improvement, and every year has been better than the year before," Miller said.

Festival attendance

Among the roughly 40 tents were Sean's Last Wish, dedicated to Shawn Kennedy, a 20-year-old hate-crime murder victim; Verizon Wireless; Levy Jewelers; Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays — Savannah; Military Partners and Families Coalition; First City Network; Agape Empowerment Ministries; and Armstrong's Gay Straight Alliance.

Graphic design student inspired to create

By Charles Hodge

To say David Warren — a full-time student, worker, graphic designer and spoken word artist — is busy is an understatement. Between personal projects, Armstrong events, band promos and downtown shows he has created dozens of successful posters and T-shirts.

Unbeknownst to many faculty and students, Warren created many of the promotional materials for student events since 2008, his two most recent including Celebrate Armstrong shirts and the 2010 Beach Bash shirt, just to name a few.

Over the past couple years he's worked both on and off campus, creating posters for local band performances and events at places such as the Tantra Lounge on Broughton Street.

Warren, who is originally from New York, moved to Chicago to attend a school for men's fashion design before relocating to Savannah and taking classes at Armstrong in 2006. Once here, professor Angela Ryczkowski-Horne's design classes ignited his passion for advertising and graphic design.

"As the graphic design intern in the Department of Marketing on campus, David overachieved, producing dozens of designs and impacting thousands of student, faculty and staff in one semester," Ryczkowski-Horne said. "He has received the Outstanding Graphic Design Student award in 2009 and has his own apparel company, Deep Breath Designs."

The 29-year-old has constantly developed himself as a marketer, advertiser, spoken word performer, designer and artist. He has toured the country with promotional

companies at music festivals, and had a successful T-shirt-design company marketed through the Internet.

As to why he creates, Warren said he is compelled to present ideas to the public through words and images, hoping his work will help them see life from new perspectives.

"The psychology of design is what makes me love it, because I love people. People are really interesting to me," he said. "If you design something properly, they love it and they don't know why they love it. If you're really good at what you do, you know exactly what a person is going to just based on how you present it."

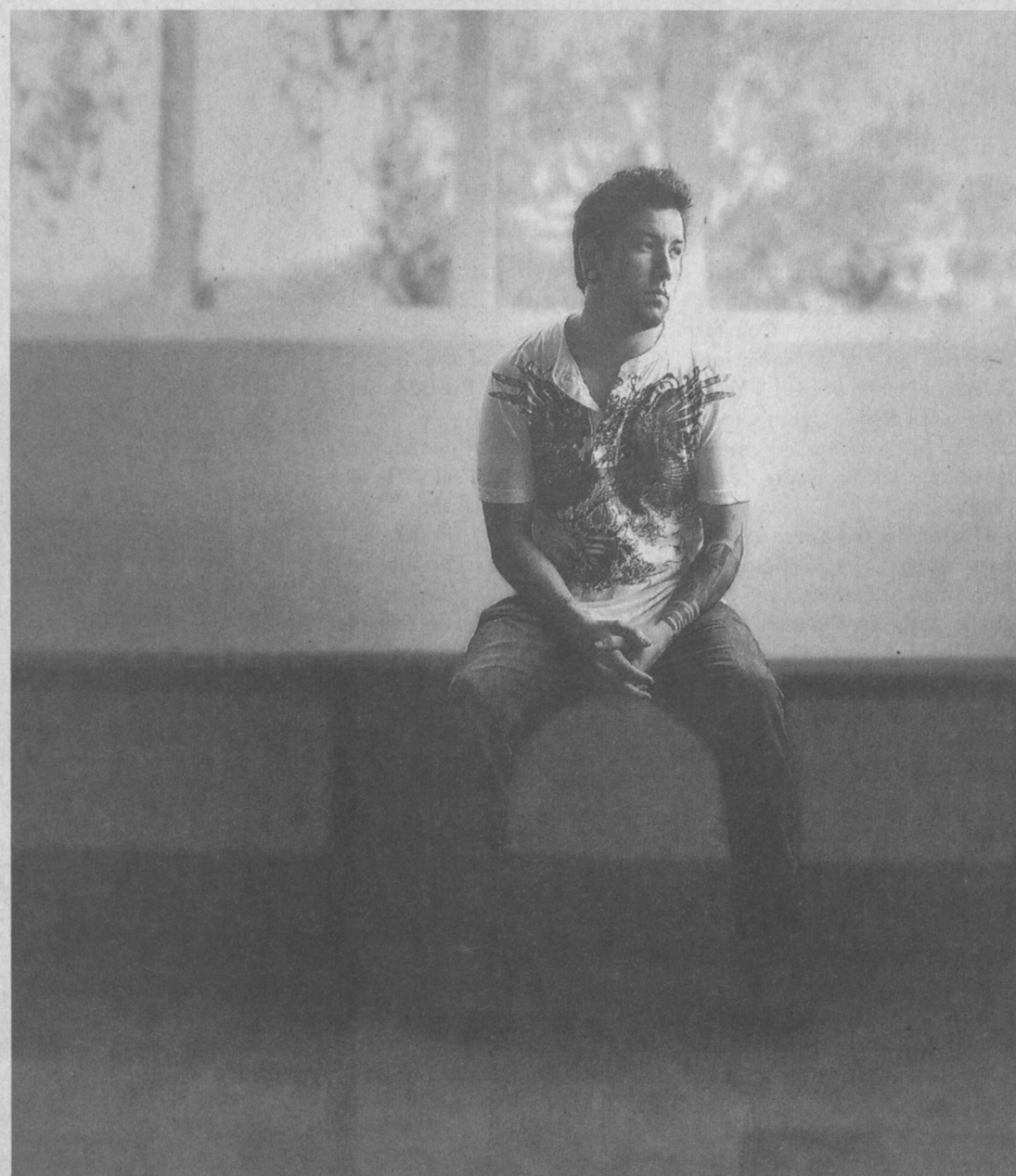
Warren's passion for writing and creating led to his involvement in the Campus Union Board's open mic nights, first as a performer and later in leadership roles as a host and the head of the Visual and Performing Arts Committee.

As campus life began to grow and develop, open mic nights grew and Warren started assisting all the departments with marketing and post-advertising for events.

Sally Watkins, associate director of Student Affairs, recalls Warren's impact on Armstrong open mic nights.

"The open mic series evolved and became much more entrenched in the culture at Armstrong and the average number of attendees did increase and were sustained while David was responsible for that," Watkins said. "We hadn't opened up the Student Union, we were in the lobby of the MCC so there was only so much we could do capacity-wise but he figured out ways to maximize that and make best use of a space that was limiting."

The switch to the Student Union provided much more room, and CUB's open mic



David Warren, a graphic design student, has created numerous flyers, T-shirts, and advertisements for Armstrong organizations since his enrollment in 2008. David will graduate in spring of 2012.

nights continued to grow in size.

The first open mic of this semester saw the participation of more than 600 students, and Watkins thinks Warren's marketing and influence a few years ago helped get this event to where it is today.

Currently, Warren is working on a website for his portfolio, creating new written works, promotional videos and working on his senior show

for this spring. He likes the idea of showing two collections of work at his senior show, one showcasing his favorite promotional designs on slides and another of digitally edited portraits.

"I'm working on creating a collection for my BFA project. The point of it is I am focusing on portraits that incorporate the idea of advertising," Warren said. "The things I really want to focus on visually are body

language and expression. I want to have these really nice dynamic portraits the incorporate typography. Anything I incorporate is going to introduce you to the person, and advertise an idea about that person."

Warren intends to graduate next spring with a bachelor's degree in fine arts with a concentration in design and advertising.

David

David Warren was responsible for the graphics on the 2009-10 student planners and the cover of the course catalog for that year.

Warren was one of only 25 students nationwide to receive the Photoshop World Student Scholarship 2011 through the recommendation of his design adviser, Angela Ryczkowski-Horne.

He has toured the country with promotional companies at music festivals, and had a successful T-shirt-design company marketed through the Internet.

You can find out more about him and his work at facebook.com/Davidthepoet.

Exhibit highlights faculty artwork

By Bradley Mullis

It's time again for the unveiling of the annual Faculty Art Exhibit at Armstrong. Currently on display in the Fine Arts Gallery, the exhibit features work from 12 different professors, eight full-time faculty members and four adjunct professors, and captures the variety of creative methods used in crafting their artwork. Pieces included in the exhibit range from ceramics, pottery, digital design and jewelry making.

Professor Tom Cato, head of the Art, Music and Theater Department, has several

photos shot on Sapelo Island on display at the exhibit.

"The Faculty Art Exhibit allows us as instructors to portray our own work to our students," Cato said. "Through the exhibit, faculty is able to show students the scope of our artistic design."

The collection is typically unveiled at the beginning of the school year to show students what they can expect from their professors in terms of creativity and structure.

"It's really terrific to know that our professors aren't art teachers, but rather artists with a teaching degree," said art major Edward Nixon. "It makes me as a student

appreciate their instruction and feedback, because I know that they're taking the same creative approach I am."

The exhibit not only gives the faculty members the opportunity to display their work, it also gives them the chance to consider selling their creations. While the pieces range in price, some are for up to \$3,600.

"Art gallery hopping is very prevalent in Savannah" said Mario Incorvaia, arts marketing director and auditorium manager for Armstrong. "We'll have people come in and love the artwork, so some of the professors will put their pieces up for sale."

The exhibit opened Sept. 12 and remains up until Sept. 30, with gallery hours running from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The show reception is Sept. 16 at 5:30 p.m., and faculty, students and members of the community are invited to come enjoy free food, drinks and, of course, the artwork.

"What people can really look forward to is the fact that all of the artwork that is presented is done by professionals," Incorvaia said. "We also feature several other shows throughout the semester so make sure to stay on the lookout for those as well."



Photo by Caroline Alley
Assistant professor of art education Karl Michel's mixed media piece "Ascending Descending," and ceramics professor John Jensen's sculpture "Woman with Viscera," are two pieces in the faculty art exhibit in the Fine Arts Gallery.



File Photo

'Contagion' does disaster right

By Todd Perkins

One thing clearly comes across in director Steven Soderbergh's films — he definitely knows how to draw actors into his works despite limited screen time. This is really evident in "Contagion." There are so many big name stars it's incredibly difficult to keep track of where they are and what they are doing. Similarly to "Ocean's Eleven," Soderbergh knows how to control a large cast while taking advantage of the talent he has at his disposal. However, it doesn't matter how capable the stars are if the script falls flat.

The film starts off pitch black and the only sound is a cough. The cough came from Beth Emhoff (Gwyneth Paltrow), who is traveling to Minnesota from a business trip in Hong Kong. Once back in the states with husband Mitch (Matt Damon) and her son Clark, her symptoms worsen and ultimately become fatal. When similar occurrences are discovered in Hong Kong, things begin to escalate.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention is notified and frantically begins

tracking down the source of the new and deadly disease. As things continue to spiral out of control, the imminent threat of an epidemic becomes clear and the race for a cure is on.

As intense or suspenseful as disease-driven thrillers are, people are more likely to be interested in the stellar cast than the story. Unfortunately, the movie is packed with so many characters it seems like they're competing for screen time. Out of everyone, Damon and Laurence Fishburne have the most to do. Damon does a good job playing an average Joe forced to deal with the epidemic's effect on society while protecting his family. Fishburne delivers a surprisingly soulful performance as the head of the CDC. Other actors like Paltrow, Kate Winslet, Marion Cotillard, Jude Law and Jennifer Ehle are all used well but I would have preferred to see more of Cotillard.

Law, in particular, makes the most out of a fun role as an outspoken blogger who evolves into a national conspiracy theorist. By the end, it's apparent Soderbergh is the film's true star.

In a style very reminiscent of his 2000 film "Traffic,"

Soderbergh uses quick and frenetic editing to convey the effect of all the rapid decisions being made by various people in such a short timeframe. Unfortunately, there is just too much happening too quickly. It becomes very easy to lose interest and become uninvolved. However, there are just enough twists and turns thrown at the audience to keep it engaging and even thrilling at times.

Soderbergh also delivers a satisfying and credible ending, although I can understand why some would disagree. The ending provides closure without wrapping up all the answers in a nice little bow. Some aspects of the film are truly riveting and haunting. Instead of attempting to gross out or sicken us with images of blood or cities in ruins, "Contagion" presents a disturbing analysis of how far paranoia will push individuals in times of crisis and uncertainty. The potential of what human beings are actually capable of doing to each other in this film is far more horrifying than any asteroid or tidal wave. Though far from flawless, this is a perfect example of what disaster movies should be.



Claudette Barius/Warner Bros. Pictures/MCT
Chin Han, left, as Sun Feng and Marion Cotillard, center, as Dr. Leonora Orantes in the thriller "Contagion," a Warner Bros. Pictures release.

Theater info

4 out of 5 immunizing injections

A Warner Bros. Pictures production

Directed by Steven Soderbergh

Starring Matt Damon, Kate Winslet and Jude Law

Rated PG-13 for disturbing content and some language.

Showing at the Carmike 10, Spotlight Eisenhower Square 6, Frank Theatres, Carmike Wynnsong 11, GTC Pooler Stadium Cinemas 12 and Royal Cinemas

Cliche-heavy 'Warrior' packs endearing punch

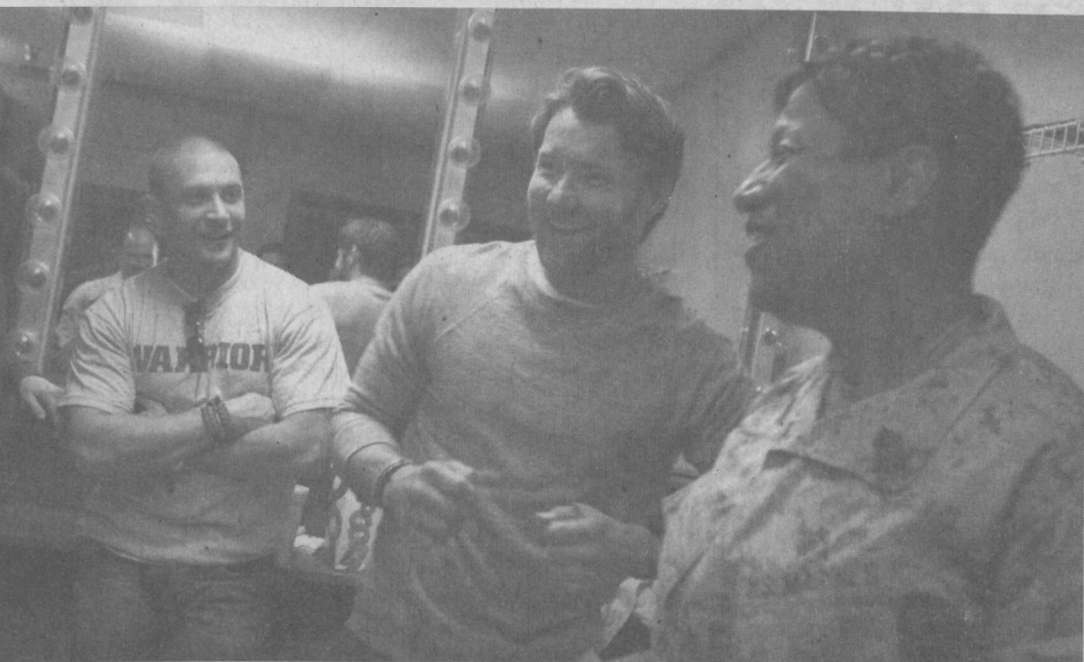
By Todd Perkins

I won't say Gavin O'Connor's "Warrior" is the best film this year, because honestly, it isn't. There isn't a single frame in this movie not borrowed from some other sports film released in the past 30 years. The characters are faced with predicaments that are recycled and worn and the plot line itself comes very close to being routine. However, none of this stops me from admitting I absolutely love this movie.

The story is relatively simple — two brothers, Tommy (Tom Hardy) and Brendan (Joel Edgerton), both enter into a mixed martial arts tournament that is gathering attention around the world. Tommy, who just returned from duty in Iraq, begins to train with his alcoholic father Paddy Conlon (Nick Nolte) despite not seeing him for the last 14 years.

Brendan, who is a married physics teacher and a father of two, starts training for fights in hopes of providing for his family and staving off bank foreclosure on his house. Once in the tournament, both Conlon brothers are forced to come to terms with their history with an abusive and commanding father, deal with their past mistakes and regrets and ultimately face each other in the arena.

What makes "Warrior" different from any other sports film I have ever seen is the audience is actually



Don Bartlett/Los Angeles Times/MCT
Backstage at the Camp Pendleton base theater, stars of the upcoming movie, "Warrior," Tom Hardy, left, and Joel Edgerton banter with Sgt. Major Ramona D. Cook, July 20, 2011.

led to care about both fighters.

Instead of rooting for the underdog, who has beaten all the odds to fight against an oppressive and egocentric adversary, the film presents its viewers with two underdogs who have actually made it all the way to the final fight. The brothers' almost tragic history together is also taken into account, which makes the final match much more than just a physical confrontation.

Though the setup is cliché, this is a fully realized and fleshed-out film with simultaneously extraordinary and identifiable characters. This is partly due to O'Connor's ability as a writer and director to keep tense,

emotional scenes from becoming too over-the-top. Edgerton, Hardy and especially Nolte are all given opportunities for overacting and scenery chewing, but they never do. They all know how far to push their characters without turning them into stereotypes, which is a normal problem for lots of feel-good sports dramas.

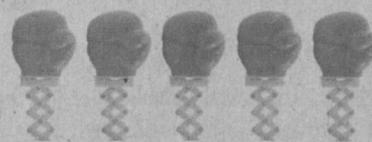
Another major reason I embrace this film is because I can actually distinguish the action taking place during the fights. Masanobu Takayanagi, the film's cinematographer, allows the camera to move quickly while maintaining the composure of the scene, which basically means

audiences can actually tell what's going on. Sharp editing also helps control the film's sense of drive and purpose while keeping everything realistic. Everything happening in this movie, as insane as it may seem, feels authentic and believable.

After past films "Miracle" and "Pride and Glory," "Warrior" is the latest of O'Connor's work proving he should be considered one of the most endearing directors working today. I am eagerly waiting to see more of both Edgerton and Hardy, who both gave fantastic performances in this film. This is one of the first truly impressive and stirring movies of 2011.

Theater info

5 out of 5 bumping fists



A Lionsgate production.

Directed by Gavin O'Connor.

Starring Tom Hardy, Nick Nolte and Joel Edgerton.

Rated PG-13 for sequences of intense mixed martial arts fighting, some language and thematic material.

Showing at Carmike Wynnsong 11 and GTC Pooler Stadium 12.

Fiesta Latina rocks Rousakis Plaza

The Latin American Services Organization hosted the Fiesta Latina in Rousakis Plaza on River Street Sept. 10 from 11 a.m. until 8 p.m. Visitors dance and sang, and Savannah College and Design graduates Troy Wandzel, Jose Ray, Adolfo Hernandez and Matt Hebermehl (bottom right) collaboratively painted a work with Hispanic inspirations.



Photos by Halie Johnson

Fair showcases study abroad opportunities

By Michelle McRorie

On Sept. 21, the Office of International Education will host the Study Abroad Fair between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. The event will be in the Savannah Ballroom of the Student Union. Faculty will provide students with information on upcoming trips and answer any questions or concerns students have.

The trips vary in length, lasting between two and nine weeks. Funding to help students travel are available through federal financial aid or the HOPE scholarship.

The trips scheduled include Italy, Ireland and Wales, Mexico, Peru, Kazakhstan, Argentina, China, Germany, Czech Republic, Costa Rica, Spain, Ghana and Chili.

Economics professor Jason Beck will host a two-and-half-week study abroad trip to Germany. The group will get acclimated in a partner university in Magdeburg before heading to Berlin. The next stop on the trip is Trier, Germany's oldest city. While in Trier, students will go to the Roman ruins followed by Luxembourg

and eventually Munich.

"There is such an advantage on going on trip with professor," Beck said. "We have probably been there before and have lots of knowledge on the places. We know what to do, best places to see, and the fastest way to get around."

Department head of nursing Helen Taggart will host a trip to China. The first week students will study traditional Chinese medicine, tour hospitals and attend interactive lectures and discussions on acupuncture and medicinal cooking. The next week will be devoted to travel in Shanghai and Beijing.

"We get to pair up Armstrong students with local Chinese students," Taggart said. "We provide cell phones and after classes, they can tour the city with local Chinese students."

Art professor Rachel Green will host a trip to Argentina next summer. The group will spend time in Salta and Santa Cruz, Bolivia. For two weeks the students will study art, study the culture of the indigenous people and establish a sustainable craft industry.

"The students will focus on meeting people," Green said.

"They get to live on a family ranch and take trekking trips while there."

Economics professor Richard McGrath is about to host his 10th trip abroad with Armstrong. This time he will be going to Ireland and Wales.

"Study abroad is more about the people, not the place," McGrath said. "The places are beautiful, but the people are the most memorable."

"Of course, we do some tourist stuff. We visit the cultural icons, but the difference is the approach we take," he said. "We learn about them instead of looking at them. You learn so much more than just sitting in class, and you learn it all the time."

McGrath encourages any interested students to come by his office with questions, located in Hawes Hall room 208J.

"It is an adventure with a safety net because there are faculty there to help you academically and socially if you need it," said history professor Allison Belzer. "You get to go somewhere new and experience a whole different culture. It is a very special time."

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said. "And because that's a university rule, we refer that over to the Student Affairs and Housing folks."

The male was banned repeatedly from the campus and previously was arrested for violating the ban. He was banned from campus on Oct. 31, 2010, after a loud argument with his girlfriend and for sounding a false fire alarm.

After a residential assistant knocked on the door the girlfriend answered, confirmed the information and retrieved the culprit from her bedroom. Both he and his girlfriend were cooperative.

However, the male was arrested for violating the ban from campus and charged with criminal trespassing.

"[The male] has ignored the direction from University Police, so he got arrested before," Willcox said. "And now, he got arrested again."

He was taken to University Police headquarters for initial processing and transferred to the Chatham County Detention Center by a Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan police officer. Although the police are reluctant to charge the male's girlfriend with aiding and abetting, Student Affairs has been notified and will decide if a punishment is needed.

"In no measure does putting a student in jail contribute to student success," Willcox said.